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Daily Highlights

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FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serb leadership sign four-month cease-fire agreement, to take effect tomorrow; talks on cessation of hostilities to follow shortly.

+ Administrative and Budgetary Committee approves $2.548 billion preliminary budget outline for 1996-1997 biennium, and new scale of assessments for United Nations expenses for 1995 to 1997.

+ Secretary-General, in letter to President of Ghana, expresses satisfaction at conclusion of peace Agreement by Liberian parties in Accra.

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The Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serb leadership today signed a four-month cease-fire agreement put forward by Special Representative Yasushi Akashi, according to a United Nations spokesman. The cease-fire will take effect at noon, local time, tomorrow.

The spokesman said further talks would be held in the coming weeks with a view to a complete cessation of hostilities, including a separation of forces and the interposition of United Nations peace-keepers between the parties.

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The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) has recommended that the General Assembly approve the sum of $2.548 billion, at the revised 1994-1995 rates, as the preliminary budget outline for the 1996-1997 biennium. It also recommended regular budget appropriations of $1,335 billion for 1995, and set a new scale of assessments to apportion United Nations expenses for the years 1995 to 1997. The Committee took that action yesterday, by approving three draft resolutions, as it suspended its work of the session.

In other actions, the Committee approved an appropriation of $7.7 million gross ($7.4 million net), previously authorized for the United Nations Angola

Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) for the period 9 December 1994 to 8 February 1995. On an exceptional basis, the Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to commit up to $25 million for the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) for the period 16 November 1994 to 31 January 1995. By a draft on the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), the Assembly would take note of the already authorized amounts of $1.3 million for the period 1 August to 31 December 1994, and $9.5 million for the period 1 December 1994 to 28 February 1995.

By other drafts approved yesterday, the Assembly would appropriate $22 million for the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for the period 1 January to 30 June 1995, inclusive of the one-third share of the cost of the Force to be met through voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus and Greece's annual pledge of $6.5 million; appropriate and apportion $4.3 million for the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) for the period 23 October 1994 to 13 January 1995; and appropriate $6.4 million for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for the period 1 December 1994 to 31 January 1995.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed satisfaction at the conclusion by the Liberian parties of a peace Agreement in Accra, Ghana. In a letter to President Jerry Rawlings of Ghana, he expressed hope that the parties would abide by their commitments and that the Agreement would herald an era of peace, national reconciliation and prosperity in Liberia.

The Secretary-General paid tribute to the tireless efforts of President Rawlings, saying the Agreement would not have been possible without his personal determination and persistence.

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Please note: This will be the last edition of the Daily Highlights for 1994. However, should circumstances warrant, Central News will issue a special Highlights next week. Happy holidays to all our readers.